

# Tuition Increase is Lowest in 8 Yrs, High Relative to Inflation

**By Elijah Jordan Turner**  
*ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR*

Chancellor Philip L. Clay PhD '75 announced at Wednesday's faculty meeting that tuition and fees will increase from \$36,390 to \$37,782 for the 2009-2010 academic year, marking the lowest percentage increase in eight years. But with respect to the inflation rate of 0.09% over the last year, the 3.83% increase in tuition represents a greater financial burden on families as an MIT education is now more expensive relative to family income.

In addition to the 3.83% increase

in tuition and fees, which includes the \$272 student life fee — up from \$250 — there will be slight increases in the costs of room and board. Those will bring the student expense budget, which includes all personal expenses except travel, to \$52,000, up 3.79% from the \$50,100 estimated for the current academic year.

Last year, MIT announced that families making less than \$75,000 each year would not be required to pay tuition. That helped spur an increase in the percentage of admitted students from lower income families who decided to enroll at MIT. However, Clay

felt there was room for improvement for students from families making between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

"We lost ground with students from families making greater than \$100,000, but less than \$200,000," said Clay.

Despite tumultuous economic times, MIT will lower the expected contribution of families making just over \$75,000. The plan is expected to cost MIT \$1.4 million annually, but Clay said, despite budget cuts in other areas, the plan will hold.

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	Tuition & Fees During Year Beginning in Fall	Percent Increase Tuition and Fees	Consumer Price Index in December of Previous Year	Inflation Rate (% Increase in the CPI)
2005	\$32,300	4.87%	190.3	3.26%
2006	\$33,600	4.02%	196.8	3.42%
2007	\$34,986	4.13%	201.8	2.54%
2008	\$36,390	4.01%	210.0	4.08%
2009	\$37,782	3.83%	210.2	0.09%

## Faculty, Staff Salaries Frozen

**By Shreyes Seshasai**  
*STAFF REPORTER*

Faculty and staff salaries will be frozen next year for faculty making more than \$125,000 a year and staff making more than \$75,000 a year, President Susan J. Hockfield announced at Wednesday's faculty meeting. MIT's \$10 billion endowment has lost 20 to 25 percent of its value, Hockfield said in a letter to the community sent yesterday.

The freeze affects more than half of the faculty: "40% of faculty, 50% of administrative staff and an overwhelming majority of support staff will be eligible for modest raises for the coming year," Hockfield said in her letter.

Hockfield herself will decline a salary increase this year and next year, she said. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, Hockfield was paid \$808,698, including \$100,000 in deferred compensation, according to MIT tax forms. That was 7 percent more than her 2005-6 salary of \$753,124, which also included \$100,000 in deferred compensation.

"Members of Academic Council, senior administrators and department heads will forgo salary increases next year" as well, said Hockfield in the letter.

The Institute plans to cut 5 percent of spending from its general operating budget, or \$50 million, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009, the president and provost announced in November.

MIT also plans to reduce spending by another \$50 million in the next year and another \$50 million in the year after that, but only if endowment performance remains poor, said Provost L. Rafael Reif. This would amount to spending cuts

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## In Wake of GIR Defeat, Back to Drawing Board

**By Natasha Plotkin**  
*NEWS EDITOR*

President Susan J. Hockfield announced at the faculty meeting on Wednesday that the motion to revise the General Institute Requirements had been defeated, eliminating any lingering uncertainties among faculty about whether the motion had passed by the required margin. Now, faculty and administrators have gone back to the drawing board to craft an improved plan for amending the GIRs.

Faculty voted on changing the GIRs last week and the plan won a simple majority vote. However, a three-fifths majority would have

been necessary to make the changes to the rules and regulations of the faculty that some parts of the motion required.

The ad hoc committee that designed the plan to reform the GIRs, the Educational Commons Subcommittee of the Committee on the Undergraduate Program, has disbanded. Future discussions and efforts to revise the GIRs, some of which may be based on the subcommittee's ideas, will be handled directly by the Committee on the Undergraduate Program.

Changes that the motion would

GIRs, Page 14



WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH

Dancers Quinnton J. Harris '11 (left) and Stephanie S. Shim '10 perform in the dance "Now Boarding: Windy City Express" during dance group Mocha Moves' dress rehearsal of their presentation *Mocha Motion* this Thursday. *Mocha Motion* will play on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Little Kresge. See Page 12 for more photos from the dress rehearsal.

## MacGregor Dining Program Closed Due To High Costs

*Low Attendance, Bad Food Quality Are Other Factors*

**By Robert McQueen**  
*ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR*

Because of inconsistent food quality, low attendance, and high costs, the MacGregor Dining Pilot Program ceased operations as of Tuesday. The program, which served dinner in MacGregor weekly, was instated to test the potential for a full-service dining hall in the dormitory. The program suffered from a

\$7500 deficit last semester in food and labor costs.

Participation in the program had steadily declined since its inception in 2006, largely due to decreasing food quality. According to a report provided by MacGregor Housemaster Munther A. Dahleh, only about ten percent of student residents ate

MacGregor Dining, Page 11

## New Invention Gives People 'Sixth Sense'

**By Zeina Siam**  
*STAFF REPORTER*

Ever wanted to be able to manipulate images on a computer the way Tom Cruise did in *Minority Report*?

**Feature** A new Media Lab invention, *sixthsense*, lets you do just that as it allows users to manipulate digital information with hand gestures.

By wearing just a hat with a tiny projector and a camera, a *sixthsense* user can make any flat surface a connection to the world to check email, map out a location, or draw with fingers.

Designed by Pranav K. Mistry G, a PhD student in the Fluid Interfaces Group of the Lab, *sixthsense* has the ability to track colors, hand movements, and gestures. It connects with its owner's digital devices.

Many natural hand gestures are possible with *sixthsense*. Snapping your fingers as if you were taking a photo on an actual camera or tapping your wrist with a circular gesture maps to the physical actions of tak-

Sixthsense, Page 11



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Erica Y. Griffith '10 addresses protesters and passersby during the Tuesday afternoon protest in Lobby 7 held by the Campaign For Students, a concerned students group. The protest was organized by students in response to the Saturday-evening leak of a draft dining proposal that recommended mandatory meal plans. See Page 10 for more photos of the protest.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Stimulus May Do Little to Develop High-Speed Rail Projects

By Michael Cooper  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

It may be the longest train delay in history: More than 40 years after the first bullet trains began zipping through Japan, the United States still lacks true high-speed rail. And despite the record \$8 billion investment in high-speed rail added at the last minute to the new economic stimulus package, that may not change any time soon.

That money will not be enough to pay for a single bullet train, transportation experts say. And by the time the \$8 billion gets divided among the 11 regions across the country that the government has designated as high-speed rail corridors, they say, it is unlikely to do much beyond paying for long-delayed improvements to passenger lines and making a modest investment in California's plan for a true bullet train.

In the short term, the money — which was inserted into the stimulus bill at the 11th hour by the White House — could put people to work improving tracks and crossings and signal systems.

That could help more trains reach speeds of 90 to 110 mph, which is much faster than they currently go. It is much slower, however, than high-speed trains in other parts of the world, such as the 180 mph of the newest Japanese bullet train. (Even the Acela trains on the East Coast are capable of 150 mph, though they average around half that.)

## A 2nd Inquiry Hits UBS, Pressed For 52,000 Names

By Lynnley Browning  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The UBS memo was blunt: The “Swiss solution” could help affluent Americans.

That message, sent to the bank's executives in July 2004, referred to a UBS plan to help rich customers evade taxes by hiding money in offshore havens like the Bahamas.

The memo, along with dozens of e-mail messages like it, were disclosed on Thursday in a blistering court document filed by the Justice Department, which sought to compel UBS, based in Switzerland, to divulge the identities of 52,000 Americans whom the authorities suspect of using secret offshore accounts at the bank to dodge taxes.

The move came one day after UBS agreed to pay \$780 million to settle claims that it defrauded the Internal Revenue Service and opened a new, unexpected front against the bank and Switzerland's long tradition of banking secrecy.

## More Charities Seeking Bankruptcy Protection

By Stephanie Strom  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

On Tuesday, the board of Glass Youth and Family Services in Los Angeles voted to file for bankruptcy protection, unable to overcome falling state reimbursements, rising costs and dwindling donations.

“We did everything we could to keep going,” said Teresa DeCrescenzo, executive director of the organization, which offers social services to gay, lesbian and transgender youth.

Charities rarely go bankrupt, although there have been scattered examples involving nonprofit hospitals and Catholic dioceses facing lawsuits stemming from the priest sexual abuse scandals. Traditionally, insolvent organizations have simply closed their doors and filed a plan of dissolution with the charity regulator in their state.

But in the last six months, nonprofit groups that include cultural institutions and social service agencies have filed to reorganize or liquidate themselves under the bankruptcy code.

While no one has compiled data on how many charities have turned to the courts for protection, experts in the field say it has become more common as nonprofits have been pressured by donors to operate more like businesses.

# Obama Visits Canada in Bid to Improve Relations

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

OTTAWA

President Barack Obama charted a delicate course with Canada on Thursday, using the first foreign trip of his presidency to ease tensions over trade policy, climate change and the war in Afghanistan — all the while basking in his celebrity status in a nation where his approval ratings are so high that a local bakery named a pastry after him.

The quick day trip marked a striking shift in U.S.-Canadian relations under President George W. Bush. If Canadians were no fans of Bush, their conservative leader, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, found in him a kindred philosophical spirit.

Obama, on the other hand, is so popular here that he used a news conference on Thursday to thank Canadian volunteers who crossed the border to help his campaign. At the same time, he sought to soothe a skeptical Harper on policy matters like whether to reopen the North American Free Trade Agreement — Obama suggested doing so as a candidate but has since recalibrated his stance — as well as a “Buy

America” provision in the \$787 billion economic recovery package he just signed into law.

“I provided Prime Minister Harper an assurance that I want to grow trade, not contract it,” Obama said during the brief, four-question news conference with Harper in the grand Gothic-style center block of the Canadian Parliament. “And I don't think that there was anything in the recovery package that was adverse to that goal.”

The prime minister responded by giving the president a bit of a lecture, remarking that Canada's stimulus package “actually removed duties on some imported goods.” “If we pursue stimulus packages the goal of which is only to benefit ourselves, or to benefit ourselves at the expense of others, we will deepen the world recession, not solve it,” Harper said.

The exchange was an awkward moment in a visit that was intended by both leaders to emphasize their countries' friendship and longstanding bonds. After slipping up by nearly referring to Ottawa as Iowa, Obama went on to say that he has a Canadian brother-in-law and that two of his top aides are Canadian.

Harper responded to a question about border security by saying that “threats to the United States are threats to Canada.” It was a powerful sound bite that appeared to be the final word of the news conference, until Obama jumped in to get one last word of his own, saying, “We have no doubt about Canada's commitment to security in the United States.”

The leaders announced what they called “a clean energy dialogue” to work out their differences on environmental issues, among the thorniest between the United States and Canada, and engage in joint research on technology to reduce carbon emissions.

The United States is a big importer of Canadian oil, and Harper has been trying to win an agreement to exempt Canada's vast tracts of oil sands, which contain up to 173 barrels of recoverable oil bound into sand and clay, from regulation. Obama is under intense pressure from environmentalists to resist that effort.

“We're not going to solve these problems overnight,” the president said.

# In Budget Deal, California Shuts \$42 Billion Gap

By Jennifer Steinhauer  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES

Take-home pay for Californians is about to shrink. Jeans, hammers, burgers and fries will cost more. Public school children will make due with old textbooks and find more classmates sitting next to them. Parents will receive fewer tax benefits, and state university students will pay 9 percent more in tuition.

As the sun rose in Sacramento on Thursday, state lawmakers ended months of political gridlock and agreed on a series of budget measures that included something for most everyone in California to despise. The \$143 billion budget closes a \$42 billion deficit through 2010 with tax increases, deep cuts in services and extensive borrowing.

Although California's budget process is unusual and its fiscal prob-

lems outsized — the state's deficit is larger than the expenditures of all but 10 other states — economists say this budget foreshadows the difficult choices that other state legislatures will soon face as the national economy worsens.

Republican lawmakers voted for tax increases at the possible expense of losing the next election; Democrats agreed to spending cuts unheard of in other downturns; and most everyone in Sacramento averted even greater compromises by looking to the federal stimulus money to bail them out.

California wrestled with its budget shortfall earlier than other states essentially because of a trick of timing. The state's current budget was passed months late last fall and was immediately shot through with holes because of the economic downturn. In a lengthy emergency session that ended with the vote Thursday, legislators

closed the current gap as well as the projected gap for the next fiscal year.

Most other states are only beginning to address their shortfalls. But with 40 states operating in the red, similar days of reckoning will soon be coming to state capitals from Florida to Arizona, state budget officials say.

“California is an example of what you will see” across the country, said Susan Urahn, the managing director of the Pew Center on the States and a budget expert. The size of budget deficits in other states will lead to similarly hard-fought debates on how to close the gaps, Urahn said.

What is more, California might have set the template as other states ponder how to apply the more fungible outlays of the federal stimulus money. “My guess is states will use what they can to reduce cuts to the bone in education and health care,” Urahn said.

# WEATHER

## Only a Month Until Spring!

By Elizabeth Maroon

By now, the semester has hit you like a bus; we're three weeks into term and the problem sets are stacking up. You're probably starting to get stressed with the first round of tests and chilly weather isn't helping. “When's winter going to end?” a Texan friend asked as it was snowing this Wednesday night. But never fear, spring's almost here! The daily highs are increasing, slowly but certainly. The normal high for today is 40°F (4°C), and the low 25°F (-4°C). By next week, climatology for Boston shows highs increasing to 41°F (5°C) by next Friday, but by the following Friday (March 6th) we could be seeing temperatures reaching from 43°F (6°C) to 29°F (-2°C). And a month from now, we'll be seeing an average high of 48°F (9°C), and the average low will finally be above freezing.

Unfortunately, for today and the weekend though, the weather is still fairly in season for February with highs in the upper 30s/lower 40s and lows in the mid-upper 20s. A low pressure system is parked to the north of us and will bring colder air into the region. With this cold air comes greater mixing in the boundary layer and stronger winds, gusting potentially up to 35mph. There is a slight chance for snow today, although don't expect much. It'll be partly cloudy to sunny tomorrow, and still quite windy. The likelihood of precipitation builds further into the weekend, with a chance of precipitation Saturday night. More likely, we will see rain/snow totaling up to a quarter or half of an inch on Sunday.

**Extended Forecast**

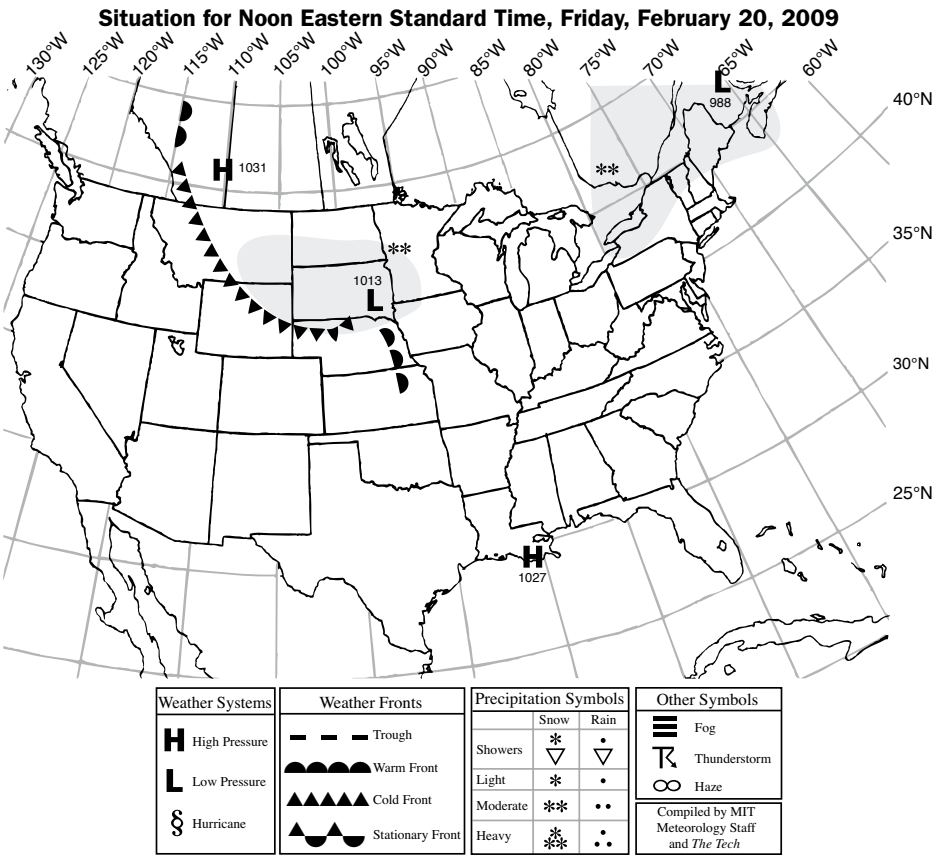
**Today:** Windy and mostly cloudy with a very slight chance for snow. High near 34°F (1°C).

**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy with a low near 24°F (-4°C).

**Saturday:** Partly cloudy to sunny, still breezy. High near 39°F (4°C).

**Saturday night:** Mostly cloudy with a low near 28°F(-2°C).

**Sunday:** Rain and snow likely. High in the lower 40s.



# Lending Locked, U.S. Tries Trillion-Dollar Key

By **Vikas Bajaj**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

Credit cards, home equity lines, student loans, car financing: None come cheaply or easily in these credit-tight times. The banks, the refrain goes, just will not lend money.

But it is not simply the banks that are the problem. It is also what lies behind them.

Largely hidden from view is a vast financial system that serves as the banker to the banks. And, like many lenders, this system is in deep trouble. The question is how to fix it.

Most banks no longer hold the loans they make, content to collect interest until the debt comes due. Instead, the loans are bundled into securities that are sold to investors, a process known as securitization.

But the securitization markets broke down last summer after investors suffered steep losses on these investments. So banks and other finance companies can no longer shift loans off their books easily, throttling their ability to lend.

The result has been a drastic contraction of the amount of credit

available throughout the economy. By one estimate, as much as \$1.9 trillion of lending capacity — the rough equivalent of half of all the money borrowed by businesses and consumers in 2007, before the recession struck — has been sucked out of the system.

Banking chiefs, who have come under sharp criticism for not making more loans even as they have accepted billions of taxpayer dollars to prop themselves up, say it is the markets, not the banks, that are squeezing American borrowers.

The Obama administration hopes to jump-start this crucial machinery by effectively subsidizing the profits of big private investment firms in the bond markets. The Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve plan to spend as much as \$1 trillion to provide low-cost loans and guarantees to hedge funds and private equity firms that buy securities backed by consumer and business loans.

The Fed is expected to start the first phase of the program, which will provide \$200 billion in loans to investors, in early March.

But analysts question whether this approach will be enough to unlock the credit that the economy needs to pull out of a deepening recession. Some worry it may benefit only select investors at taxpayer expense.

The program also does not try to change securitization practices that, many investors say, spread risks throughout the world and destroyed financial institutions. Policymakers acknowledge that for now, fixing credit ratings, reducing conflicts of interest and improving disclosure can wait.

Under the program, the Fed will lend to investors who acquire new securities backed by auto loans, credit card balances, student loans and small-business loans at rates ranging from roughly 1.5 percent to 3 percent.

Depending on the type of security they are borrowing against, investors will be able to borrow 84 percent to 95 percent of the face value of the bonds. Investors would not be liable for any losses beyond the 5 percent to 16 percent equity that they retain in the investment.

## Newly Poor Swell Lines At America's Food Banks

By **Julie Bosman**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

MORRISTOWN, N.J.

Once a crutch for the most needy, food pantries have responded to the deepening recession by opening their doors to what Rosemary Gilmartin, who runs the Interfaith Food Pantry here, described as “the next layer of people” — a rapidly expanding roster of child-care workers, nurse’s aides, real estate agents and secretaries facing a financial crisis for the first time.

Demand at food banks across the country increased by 30 percent in 2008 from the previous year, according to a survey by Feeding America, which distributes more than 2 billion pounds of food every year. And instead of their usual drop in customers after the holidays, many pantries in upscale suburbs this year are seeing the opposite.

Here in Morris County, one of the wealthiest counties in the country, the Interfaith pantry opened for an extra night last week to accommodate the growing crowds. Among the first-time visitors were Cindy Dreeszen and her husband, who both

have steady jobs — his at a movie theater and hers at a government office — with a combined annual income of about \$55,000.

But with a 17-month-old son, another baby on the way, and, as Dreeszen put it, “the cost of everything going up and up,” the couple showed up in search of free groceries.

“I didn’t think we’d even be allowed to come here,” said Dreeszen, 41, glancing at shelves of fruit, whole-wheat pasta and baby food. “This is totally something that I never expected to happen, to have to resort to this.”

In Lake Forest, Ill., a wealthy Chicago suburb, a pantry in an Episcopal church that used to attract people from less affluent towns nearby has lately been flooded with people who have lost jobs. In Greenwich, Conn., a pantry organizer reported a “tremendous” increase in demand for food since December, with out-of-work landscapers and housekeepers as well as real estate professionals who have not made a sale in months filling the line.

And amid the million-dollar hous-

es of Marin County, Calif., a pantry at the San Geronimo Valley Community Center last month changed its policy to allow people to stop by once a week instead of every other week, since there are so many new faces in line alongside the regulars.

“We’re seeing people who work at banks, for software firms, for marketing firms, and they’re all losing their jobs,” said Dave Cort, the executive director. “Here we are in big, fancy Marin County, but we have people who are standing in line with their eyes wide open, thinking, ‘Oh, my God, I can’t believe I’m here.’”

The demand is not limited to pantries, which distribute groceries from food banks, supermarket surplus and individuals who donate through church or school can drives. The number of food-stamp recipients was up by 17 percent across New York state, and 12 percent in New Jersey, in November from a year before.

When a mobile unit of the Essex County welfare office, as part of a pilot program to distribute food-stamp applications in other counties, stopped in Shop-Rite parking lots recently in Morris County, it was swamped.

## U.N. Says Iran Enriched More Uranium Than Reported

By **William J. Broad**  
and **David E. Sanger**  
*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

In their first appraisal of Iran’s nuclear program since President Obama took office, atomic inspectors have found that Iran recently understated by a third how much uranium it has enriched, UN officials said Thursday.

The officials also declared for the first time that the amount of uranium that Tehran had amassed — more than a ton — was sufficient, with added purification, to make an atom bomb.

In a report issued in Vienna, the International Atomic Energy Agency said it had discovered an additional 460 pounds of low-enriched uranium, a third more than Iran had previously disclosed. The agency made the find during its annual physical inventory of nuclear materials at Iran’s desert enrichment plant at Natanz.

Independent nuclear weapons experts expressed surprise at the disclosure and criticized the atomic inspectors for making independent checks on Iran’s progress only once

a year.

“It’s worse than we thought,” Gary Milhollin, director of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, said in an interview. “It’s alarming that the actual production was underreported by a third.”

The political impact of the report, while hard to measure, could be significant for the Obama administration. Obama has said that he wants to open direct talks with Iran about its nuclear program. But that process could take months, and the report suggests that Iran is moving ahead briskly with its uranium enrichment.

“You have enough atoms” to make a nuclear bomb, a senior U.N. official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the topic’s diplomatic sensitivity, told reporters on Thursday. His remarks confirmed estimates that private nuclear analysts made late last year. But the official noted that the material would have to undergo further enrichment if it was to be used as fuel for a bomb and that atomic inspectors had found no signs that Iran was making such preparations.

On Thursday evening, an Obama administration official who had reviewed the new report said, “There is a steady timeline of improvement, especially in term of mastering the efficiency of the centrifuges,” meaning that Iran has been able to increase its output of enriched uranium.

The official acknowledged that there were long-standing suspicions that Iran could have additional uranium enrichment sites that the inspectors had not seen or heard about. “Everyone’s nervous and worried about the possibility of Iran pursuing a clandestine capability,” he said.

The disclosure of the unaccounted third came in the atomic agency’s quarterly report to its board, which was made public on Thursday. The report noted that Iran had produced a total of 1,010 kilograms — or 2,227 pounds — of low-enriched uranium.

The discrepancy came to light when the report noted that the new total came from the addition of 171 kilograms of new production to 839 kilograms of old production. But the agency had previously reported the old production as 630 kilograms.

## Court Ruling Blocks Suits Against Medical Device Makers

By **Barry Meier**

*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

On the same day last month that a federal judge in St. Paul threw out hundreds of lawsuits against the maker of a faulty heart device, a man entered a nearby hospital to have one of those flawed products surgically removed.

The risky operation went terribly wrong. As doctors extracted the device, a thin electronic cable, from the patient’s heart, a vessel was punctured, causing extensive bleeding. The 33-year-old patient, Mark Turnidge, died two days later, leaving behind a wife and two young sons.

“They told me he had suffered massive brain damage,” said his wife, Wendy Turnidge.

She is considering suing the doctors, as well as the device’s maker, Medtronic, which she said bore blame for her husband’s death. But a Supreme Court decision last year stands as a barrier against suing medical device companies — an obstacle that some members of Congress want to remove.

At issue is a February 2008 court ruling that barred patients or their survivors from suing makers of complex medical devices — like the Medtronic product — if the Food and Drug Administration has approved their sale. Since that ruling judges nationwide, including the one in St. Paul, have cited it to dismiss cases against a wide range of manufacturers, including Medtronic. The most recent dismissal was Feb. 17, by the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

## Boy, 9, Enters a Guilty Plea In 2 Killings in Arizona

By **Solomon Moore**

*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

A 9-year-old Arizona boy who admitted fatally shooting his father and another man last November pleaded guilty Thursday to one count of negligent homicide.

Under the terms of the plea, the boy will remain in the custody of the state until he is 18. He will undergo a psychiatric evaluation to determine whether he should be placed in a juvenile detention center in Apache County, where the crime occurred; in a therapeutic facility; in a foster home or with his mother, who is divorced from the boy’s father.

Lawyers for the county promised not to seek to commit the boy to a state juvenile facility or to file additional criminal charges against him stemming from the killings. If the boy is not convicted of any other crimes before he turns 18, the county will expunge his juvenile record.

Shortly after the boy’s father, Vincent Romero, 29, and the other man, Timothy Romans, 39, were found shot to death on Nov. 5 at the Romero home in St. Johns, Ariz., the boy confessed to shooting both men at point-blank range with a hunting rifle his father had given him as a birthday present.

But neither a defense lawyer nor a guardian was present when the confession was videotaped, and the county prosecutor was criticized for saying he planned to try the boy as an adult.

## Republicans Hail Parts of Bill That Few of Them Supported

By **Michael Falcone**

*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

WASHINGTON

Republican lawmakers nearly unanimously resisted supporting the president’s \$787 billion stimulus package, but what has proved irresistible is the temptation to take credit for at least a few of those billions.

Despite criticizing the bill as wasteful, a handful of Republican members of the House and Senate have found some provisions to cheer.

Just hours after voting against the bill on the House floor last week, Rep. John L. Mica of Florida issued news releases lauding the inclusion of \$8 billion for high-speed rail projects around the nation. Mica said the bill would also help pay for a commuter train project in his Central Florida district.

“If we could put a man on the moon, we should be able to move people from city to city quickly instead of wasting time on a congested highway,” said Mica, the ranking Republican on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. “I applaud President Obama’s recognition that high-speed rail should be part of America’s future.”

Jennifer Crider, a spokeswoman for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, called the unlikely chorus of praise from Mica and other Republican lawmakers “the height of hypocrisy.”

## Health Care Industry in Talks to Shape Policy

By **Robert Pear**

*THE NEW YORK TIMES*

WASHINGTON

Since last fall, many of the leading figures in the nation’s long-running health care debate have been meeting secretly in a Senate hearing room. Now, with the blessing of the Senate’s leading proponent of universal health insurance, Edward M. Kennedy, they appear to be inching toward a consensus that could reshape the debate.

Many of the parties, from big insurance companies to lobbyists for consumers, doctors, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies, are embracing the idea that comprehensive health care legislation should include a requirement that every American carry insurance.

While not all industry groups are in complete agreement, there is enough of a consensus, according to people who have attended the meetings, that they have begun to tackle the next steps: How to enforce the requirement for everyone to have health insurance; how to make insurance affordable to the uninsured; and whether to require employers to help buy coverage for their employees.

The talks, which are taking place behind closed doors, are unusual. Lobbyists for a wide range of interest groups — some of which were involved in defeating national health legislation in 1993-94 — are meeting with the staff of Kennedy, D-Mass., in a search for common ground.

Kennedy is fighting brain cancer, and participants in the talks said his illness had added urgency to the discussions.

OPINION



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Secret Meetings Breed Distrust on Dining

The leak of a draft consultants' report to the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining clearly sparked some strong feelings on campus over the past week. One of the ways in which this concern

Editorial

manifested itself was in the form of a well-attended and fairly conspicuous protest rally in Lobby 7 last Tuesday.

However, the rally was organized in opposition to a draft report from a consulting company, not an administrative decision or a finding from the committee or anyone else at MIT. The draft report has not even been formally discussed by the members of the committee and doesn't yet represent a plan of action from anyone responsible for reforming the dining system. So why are students acting like this is such a big deal?

The simple answer is that the undergraduate community has lost faith in the system. They feel as if the cards are stacked against them. Even though the committee has a number of student representatives, the history of the committee has led people to believe that they are not afforded an equal voice in the process. Students don't have faith that their own representatives can turn back this ill-considered proposal in the committee as it is currently run.

The Blue Ribbon Committee has been dogged by problems since long before the events of this past weekend. Charges have

been leveled that the committee does not adequately represent large segments of the campus population and that student members have been restricted from providing detailed reports of the committee's deliberations. Meeting minutes and records have been equally difficult to come by. Lack of information breeds fear and concern.

The straw that broke the camel's back was when certain staff and administrators on the committee chose to receive and review Envision's draft report without the knowledge of the student members.

This secrecy violates the spirit of open discourse in which the committee was chartered and serves as yet another example of how the Institute treats students as junior partners even in decisions that directly affect their welfare and experience here.

Though the protest earlier this week was mostly focused on the content of the report, the real necessary change is in the decision-making process.

We support the efforts of the UA and other student groups to make the process more transparent, either by restructuring the Blue Ribbon Committee or by replacing it with a student-led effort. We hope that Dean Columbo, Dean Nilsson, and others will meet these efforts in kind and work to shape a reform proposal that is student-driven and respects student preferences.

Letters To The Editor

Thanks, Administrators!

I would just like to thank the MIT administration for providing the MIT student body with so many great community-building opportunities like the protest in Lobby 7 on Tuesday.

By misunderstanding or outright ignoring many students' views on dining, hacking, and other issues — thereby angering large portions of the student body in one way or another — many of us have really come together and built strong bonds as a community of outraged MIT students. More than any dining hall or communal kitchen cooking experience could ever accomplish, the MIT students concerned about the future quality of student life for ourselves and those unfortunate enough to follow have formed a strong sense of true community.

Why, just at Tuesday's protest, I ate the nutritious and tasty lunch I had cooked for myself in my kitchen at Senior Haus the night before, chatted with many friends and acquaintances from both sides of Mass Ave and the Charles

River, got a bunch of help in learning LaTeX for a problem set, solved several problems on a different problem set, and got a date to the track prom. Talk about community building!

And all of it was facilitated by our wonderful MIT administration, which continues to dismiss student concerns instead of listening to them with the respect normally rendered to adults with their own needs and desires. Thank you, MIT administrators!

Caroline M. Figgatt '11

Stop Wasteful Behavior on Campus

Paper requisitions are still a common way to place purchases across the Institute. The carbon-backed forms come in 100-page booklets and can be acquired from the Office of the VP for Finance at 600 Tech Square.

On February 17, having exhausted our lab's supply, I took a detour during lunch to pick up more booklets.

Imagine my surprise when I was handed a single page instead of the usual maximum

of two booklets. Then, imagine my annoyance when I discovered that the reason for this frugality was that someone had commandeered the storage room where 85 boxes of these books were stored and had thrown them all out to free up space. By my rough estimation, each box contained at least 60 books, meaning that at least 8100 books were carelessly discarded.

Until Office Depot can print more, the forms are being rationed at a single page per request.

What's really disturbing is that the situation could have been so much worse. What if, instead of tens of thousands of blank forms, these boxes had held important records, confidential student information, or proprietary research data? Would they be lying in the street for anyone to find or lost forever in some landfill?

Hopefully, this is an isolated incident, but it suggests a certain level of bureaucratic incompetence or negligence. If the Institute is committed to increasing efficiency across campus, then such wasteful behavior must be addressed.

Zhe Lu G

Susan Hockfield, Budget Cuts, and the Blue Ribbon Dining Problem

Vinayak Ranade

How are three of the hottest topics on campus tied together? As most of us found out recently, the consultant firm working with the Blue Ribbon Dining Committee (BRDC) published a report recommending a mandatory "nutritional" cost to all students. In fact, the only reason we all found out was because the report got leaked.

Let's do a back-of-the-envelope calculation. MIT wants to cut 15% of costs because of the financial crisis. MIT lost on the order of \$513,846 subsidizing dining this year. MIT lost on the order of \$622,205 paying Susan Hockfield in 2004-05, which at a 3% simple yearly appreciation would be \$678,203 today. If MIT implements the policies recom-

mended in the BRDC consultants' report, MIT Dining will lose \$422,000 to \$455,000 by year 4 of rolling out the consultants' recommendations,

instead of the current \$513,846. So the consultants' recommendations give MIT a cost cut of \$91,846 at the most. This cost cut will come at an additional mandatory "nutritional" expense to students.

Susan Hockfield is committed to ensuring that students are able to afford MIT. If Susan Hockfield took a 15% pay cut and gave that money to MIT Dining, this would achieve a better overall financial

result than the BRDC consultant's recommendations (15% of \$678,203 is \$101,730).

Consider the following thought experiment. If all students

*"If Susan Hockfield took a 15% pay cut and gave that money to MIT Dining, this would achieve a better overall financial result than the ... consultant's recommendations"*

were surveyed with the question, "Would you rather Susan Hockfield take a 15% cut in pay or would you rather pay more money for a mandatory 'nutritional plan'?" what do you think the result would be?

In these trying times, MIT needs leadership, and we need our president to lead by example.

*Vinayak Ranade is a member of the Class of 2009.*

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**Dissents** are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become

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**Guest columns** are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community and have the author's name in italics. Columns without italics are written by *Tech* staff.

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# Stop Complaining

Akash Chandawarkar

The consultants’ draft to the Blue Ribbon Committee was leaked and, as per MIT tradition, a flurry of e-mails filled our inboxes from concerned, upset, and protesting students. Really? A protest? Let me try to explain to you why you should probably let this one go and concentrate on cooking your expensive, unhealthy meal.

First, this was just a consultant’s draft. The administration hasn’t done anything with it, and no one knows how they will receive it or if they will implement any of it at all. It’s just a draft — that’s all. Instead of protesting, maybe try conducting a similarly rigorous study of student opinion (and of all student opinions, not just those who agree with you), and sub-

mitting that alongside this one.

Protesting is probably the worst way to get the administration to listen to you. This isn’t the 60s. Creating an “us vs. them” image by using negative words and actions against the administration is heavily detracting from the respect you are hoping to get from them. Just try, for once, to give the administration some respect and, you never know, you might get it back!

Mr. Jessop, the UA President, in his e-mail to all undergraduates claimed that “the student voice is not being accounted for in the decision making process.” Really? From what I see, the consultants seem to have made their recommendations based on student surveys. That sounds like student voice to me. Sorry, the angry protests of the loudest few can’t possibly be a better representation of “student voice”

than actual field research the consultants conducted.

Just think about your naivety in this situation. The administrators and consultants likely have been working on issues like this for years professionally. You, the protestor, were being spoon-fed by your mothers one or two years ago at home. Who probably has a better idea of what works on college campuses: the MIT student who has been living on his or her own for a few years or the professional who does it for a living? I’m going to go with the latter. Here’s an easier analogy: who do you let operate on you, the pre-med or the surgeon? Sure, the pre-med could give some helpful input, but chances are the surgeon has been around long enough to know exactly what he or she is doing.

MIT doesn’t have any binding obligation to

take student opinion in any decisions that they make. MIT is a private university that really can do whatever they want within the limits of the law. However, the fact that they try to incorporate student opinion through these consultants should not be overlooked. The student input they do take is not a student right. In the end, the MIT experience is their product that you buy into. You can choose to stop buying into this product if you disagree with their decisions.

You once put your faith into MIT by deciding to come here over all the other schools in the country. Try putting your faith in them one more time. Maybe, just maybe, you will realize that the administration knows what they are doing.

*Akash Chandawarkar is a member of the Class of 2009.*

This will be the first thing I’ve written for The Tech other than a photo caption. One might think that I should be excited, but I know it’s really not a serious story; no, in fact, it’s just background text for a silly advertisement to promote The Tech’s production department (the folks that do the layout and make sure everything fits nicely with no space left over, giving you the beautiful and functional newspaper you know and love).

Of course, I could write the entire page of background text, but although you’re smirking now, I highly doubt you would read four columns of un-news, no matter how well written they were. Besides, I’m not used to writing things in columns, and prefer to stick to little snippets describing the events and people in the pictures that I take.

With that said, here’s one of my favorite types of filler text, “Lorem Ipsum”:

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Still reading? Wow, I’m surprised. That would have been really boring to me, personally. Then again, I don’t speak fake Latin.

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By now you may have realized that I’m going to stick random bits of English throughout this thing. Not too many, but enough to keep the astute observer looking... Agna conul-lutem dolortie dolobor erostrud doloreet aliquamcommy num in ex erit utniatie vel digna facing eu feuisi.

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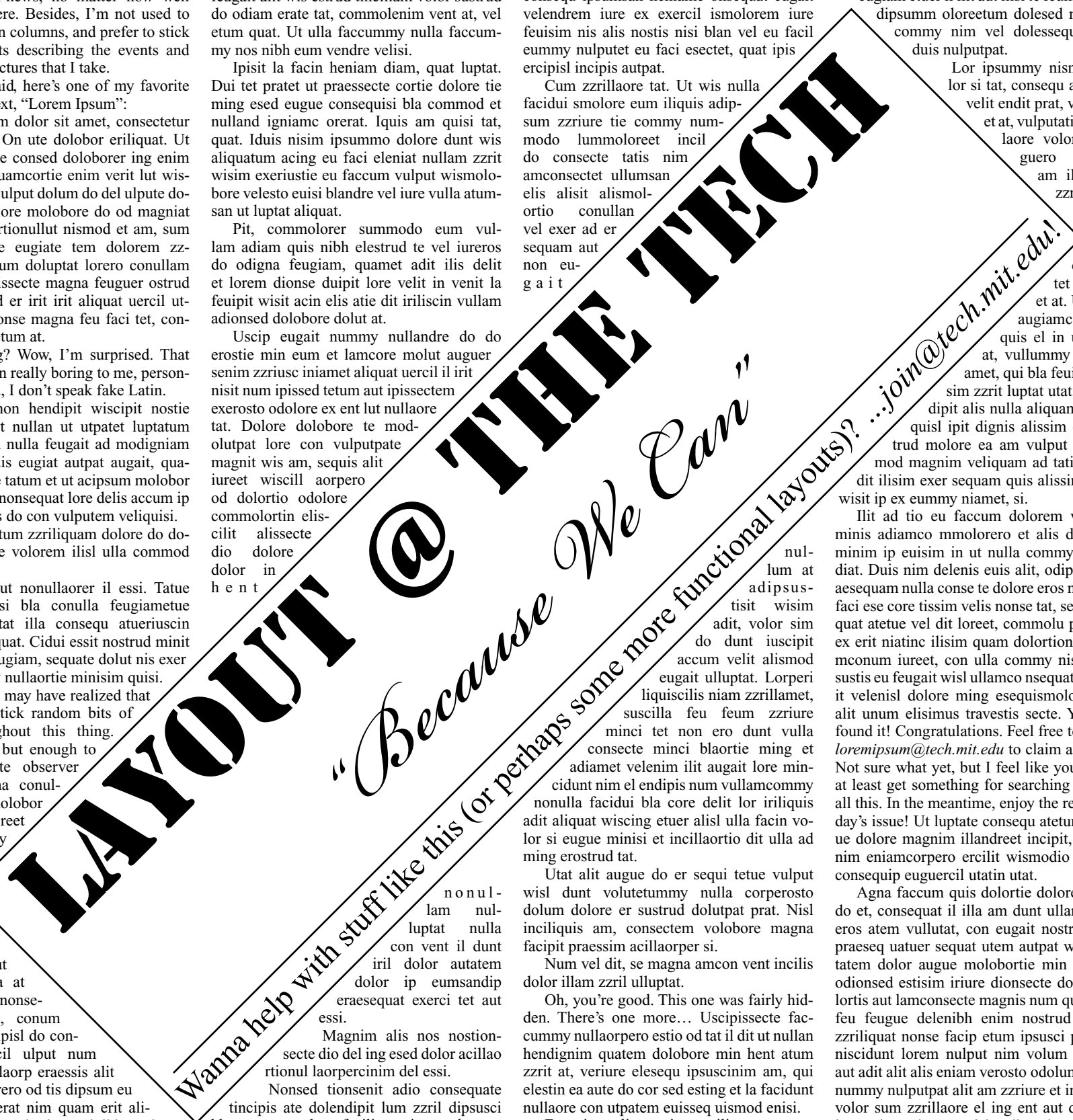
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## ARTS

## CD REVIEW

# The Bad Plus, Plus One

## Quartet Remembers Cobain, Stravinsky ... and Rocks Hard

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

*The Bad Plus**For All I Care**Produced by The Bad Plus**Heads Up International*

February 3, 2009

Jazz is a genre that consistently flirts with risk-taking. Whether this manifests itself in compositional structure, instrumentation, harmonic choices, or transcending implicit musical boundaries, The Bad Plus is a group that has done it all. Since the release



HEADS UP INTERNATIONAL

of the group's first record on the Fresh Sound / New Talent imprint, the critic community has argued over the true categorization of these three veteran musicians from Minneapolis. At the very base, they are indisputably a jazz group. But what causes most listeners to question this blanket classification is The Bad Plus' penchant for risk. Boasting a catalogue of astounding original compositions (each member plays piano and writes for the whole band) and an arsenal of jazz-tinged rock and pop covers, The Bad Plus explores more musical territory than most of their jazz or indie contemporaries. This past summer, at the North Sea Jazz Festival in Rotterdam, Netherlands (an event I was fortunate enough to attend) Reid Anderson (bass), Ethan Iverson (piano), and David King (drums) announced the upcoming release of their new album, *For All I Care*. They also mentioned that they'd had a surprise waiting for the audience backstage. Seasoned Bad Plus fans are no stranger to the antics that this trio brings to the stage, but there's just one thing that fans were not expecting: Wendy Lewis.

*For All I Care* is the Bad Plus' first effort with a fourth member — a vocalist, to be specific. At North Sea, the nascent quartet played an energetic and uplifting set of deconstructed rock covers. Notorious for turning songs like Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" and Rush's "Tom Sawyer" into tight and authentic jazz anthems, it only made sense for

Lewis to handle the vocals for a whole new set of covers. *For All I Care* pleasantly opens with a modern interpretation of Nirvana's "Lithium," disorienting the listener right off the bat with a jittery, nauseous tempo hiccup as Lewis echoes Cobain's famous lyrics, "I'm so happy / 'cause today / I found my friends."

The cover attempts on *For All I Care* represent a new challenge for The Bad Plus. Typically, Anderson or Iverson would take care of the melodies. Now, with Lewis on board mastering the vocal melodies, the bass and piano serve a new, expansive purpose. Instead of diluting the song with superfluous harmony, Iverson does a remarkable job of laying low while Lewis sings and shining through during his solos. King's place in The Bad Plus has always entailed rhythmic attack and fast cymbal work, but even he's taken the time to successfully pinpoint where to let loose and where to hold back.

Lewis' voice adds a new emotional element that The Bad Plus may not have achieved on previous cover songs. If Anderson's haunting bassline on Wilco's "Radio Cure" isn't enough to give you chills, then Lewis' interpretation of Tweedy's languid lines will. Coming from an indie-rock background, Lewis is at her best when she sings at the top of her range. When King makes an entrance into "Radio Cure," right before the chorus, Iverson plays an ascending line that leads into Lewis' gripping shout: "Oh distance has no way / of making love / understandable."

The diversity of the covers is a not only a testament to The Bad Plus' wide tastes and abil-

ity, but also to Lewis' vocal capacity. She puts on a bad girl attitude for Heart's "Barracuda" and adopts a more compassionate demeanor for The Flaming Lips' "Feeling Yourself Disintegrate." Lewis steps out to let The Bad Plus take on some instrumental covers of 20th century classical music, too. The tight work on Gyorgi Ligeti's "Fém (Etude No. 8)" would make you dizzy were it not for some strategically placed drum breaks. A beautiful version of Stravinsky's "Apollo" appears in the second half of the album and showcases the musicians' ability to play highly composed passages with unbelievable precision.

Veteran Bad Plus fans might be upset to find the band collaborating with a singer and playing an album devoid of original music, but *For All I Care* is still very much a Bad Plus album. Their signature style of deconstruction and reconstruction (a "fascinating" process, Lewis remarks) is what allows this album to maintain its place in The Bad Plus' catalogue. It seems, though, that this may end up being the trio's only album-related collaboration with Lewis, so fans can expect another instrumental Bad Plus album in the near future. My only regret for people who purchase the CD version of *For All I Care* is that the limited edition vinyl pressing (if you can find it online) contains two incredible bonus tracks: a stunning version of U2's "New Year's Day" and a Reid Anderson original, "You and I is a Comfort Zone." If you're curious to hear what this quartet sounds like, be sure to check them out when they come to Berklee Performance Center on April 3rd.

## DANCE REVIEW

# MIT Natya Presents Shakti: Women of Power

## Troupe Dramatizes Hindu Mythology

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

*Shakti: Women of Power**MIT Natya**Little Kresge*

February 15, 2009

Last Sunday MIT Natya performed their annual show in Little Kresge, entitled *Shakti: Women of Power*. Natya is purely devoted to Bharatanatyam, a classical dance tradition originating from South India. The show utilized the art of dance to convey the stories of three women in Hindu mythology who have had notable impact on the status of women. Bharatanatyam is an extremely technical and challenging dance form that incorporates percussive foot movements, which often complement the rhythm of the drums in the accompanying music.

Luckily, Natya was able to secure two live musicians for the event, Suhas Rao on violin and Akshay Anantapadmanabhan on mridangam. Whereas a number of Bharatanatyam events are danced to tape or pre-recorded music, having the live musicians not only made for a more authentic stage setting, but also allowed audience members unfamiliar with the art form to see the connection between instrumentation and the precise dance steps.

The show opened with a beautiful instrumental selection, as all the members of Natya

entered the stage in a choreographed formation. This gave the crowd a chance to see the performers before they began the dramatic segment of the show, and, most importantly, to get a taste for the colors of the costumes and a variety of rhythmic dance steps. This would have been an equally exciting routine to seasoned dance fans or newcomers.

The first story of the evening focused on Kannagi, who represents justice. Played by Mathura Sridharan '12, Kannagi is wedded to the handsome Kovalan, portrayed by Renuka Ramanathan '10. The dramatization explains how Kannagi seeks justice for her innocent husband, who is wrongfully accused of stealing the Queen's precious anklet.

The expert choreography combined a well-balanced mix of technical dancing and dramatic acting, as is customary in this dance style. While the actresses were strong, a live narrator gave necessary context to the story. The climax of the scene occurs during a beautiful yet macabre execution of Kovalan. Ramanathan's exceptional expression and acting during this scene gave the audience pause, evoking a sense of urgency that was abruptly resolved as the executioners circling her took her down in one strike.

The next tale proved to be more accessible and less heavy than the previous. In this myth, Savitri (Anjali Thakkar '12) uses her wit to trick Yama (Sridharan), the god of death. Savitri falls in love with Satyavan (Kavya Kamal



ARTHUR PETRON—THE TECH

Mathura J. Sridharan '11 (left) and Renuka Ramanathan '10 portray Kannagi and Kovalan in MIT Natya's show *Shakti: Women of Power* in Little Kresge on Sunday.

Manyapu G), who is said to be near his death. Though she is advised against it by a wise man, the two are married and enjoy a happy life together. This scene was most humorous and endearing because of its representation of the forest in which the young couple celebrate: some dancers portrayed swaying trees, and others acted as playful monkeys.

Inevitably, Satyavan dies, but Savitri finds a way to outwit Yama. During this portion of the story, an incredible synergy between Thakkar and Sridharan made the scene impressive. Savitri relentlessly follows Yama, who grants her a boon for her determination. Eventually, Savitri asks for a son, which Yama agrees to — without realizing that she'd need her husband back in order to fulfill her wish. The audience laughed, showing reverence for Savitri's intellect.

The third and final story brought a solemn feeling back to the stage. Here, Queen Draupadi (Ramanathan) is subject to public humiliation when her husband, Yudhishtra (Mohini Jangi G), wagers her dignity on a game of dice. He does not know that his challengers, the Kauravas (his

wily cousins), have fixed the dice game. This scene utilized the instrumental section most fluidly, as the drums and violins provided sound effects for the tense competition. Ramanathan once again proved to be an exceptional actress — as the Kauravas (played by Manyapu & Chandni Valiathan G) try to embarrass her and pull off her sari, she prays to Lord Krishna who lengthens her dress infinitely.

The crowd was moved by a stunning performance during each segment. Facial expressions, an integral element to Bharatanatyam, gave the characters exquisite life and excitement. Of the group, Sridharan, Ramanathan and Manyapu proved to be the most engaging. Sridharan even skillfully jumped back and forth between dancing and providing vocal accompaniment.

At times, technical difficulties and stage direction miscommunication caused a slight lag, but the girls were able to recover from these mistakes instantly. Due to the variety of skill levels in Natya, there were moments where large group choreography fell behind the beat and lacked the synchronicity that is so key in Bharatanatyam. This became more apparent as the live drummer at times compensated for the missed beats, or at other times tried to re-emphasize the beat to focus the footwork.

It is a shame, though, that Natya only performed this show once, because it does deserve to be seen by many more. Keep an eye out for more performances from Natya at this year's SAAS Culture Show.



ARTHUR PETRON—THE TECH

MIT Natya members perform *Sakti: Women of Power* in Little Kresge on Sunday.



## THEATER REVIEW

# 'The Vagina Monologues'

## Raising Awareness and Celebrating Female Sexuality

By Joanne Shih

STAFF WRITER

*The Vagina Monologues*

Written by Eve Ensler

Directed by Kellas Cameron '10,

Petek Saracoglu '09, &amp; Ari Shapiro G

February 12 - 14, 2009

10-250

What would Valentine's Day weekend be without a celebration of women? And I'm not just talking about getting your girlfriend or gal pals chocolates or flowers, or taking that cute girl from lab out for dinner. I'm talking about the *Vagina Monologues*, a production that has raised millions of dollars for anti-violence organizations over the past decade.

*Monologues* is a collection of stories, facts, and pieces. Some are humorous and others, focused on educating audiences about female sexual awareness and anti-violence efforts, are more serious. Started in 1998, the produc-

tion highlights a different issue each year in one of the monologues; this year's highlight, "Baptism," focused on the mass rapes in the Congo.

Last Friday night's showing was quite packed, with an expectedly larger number of women than men in the audience. As a *Vagina Monologues*-virgin, I was not quite sure what to expect. The conservative side of my brain was ready to brace myself for possible moments of discomfort, cringing, and awkwardness — I'd heard about the moaning and the unabashed use of terms like "cunt" and "pussy." I shouldn't have worried: I found myself enjoying the show immensely and was surprisingly comfortable throughout the two-hour production.

The show began on a humorous note, with a melange of vagina metaphors, comparing the female sex organ to entities ranging from the Bermuda Triangle ("no one comes back from it") to MIT references: "the black hole" (Random Hall), "a sponge" (Simmons), "single occupancy" (MacGregor). In "Wear and Say,"

Laura Fallon '09, Jennifer Nelson '09, and Lauren Shields '10 gave spirited answers to the question of what your vagina would wear if it could don clothing (A tutu! Combat boots! Sweatpants?). Other topics of discussion included the mystery of the orgasm and a potentially lost clitoris in "Workshop." Elise Kuo '11 gave a delightfully vicious rant in "My Angry Vagina" against thong underwear, tampons, and gynecologist visits.

After intermission, the monologues took a more serious, darker turn, with pieces about rape and sexual assault. An Vu '09 gave a haunting performance of "My Vagina Was My Village," a look into the atrocities faced by a Bosnian rape victim of war, that nearly moved me to tears. The thick silence in the room made it clear that the rest of the audience was equally moved.

A rather tongue-in-cheek piece about the absurdity of prohibited vibrator sales in comparison to the sale of guns helped transition into more comedic pieces to finish the night. Devorah Kengmana '12 was adorable as the

"Six Year Old Girl," with hilarious outbursts including "Snowflakes!" when asked what the vagina smells like.

And even though I had braced myself for some moaning, nothing could have prepared me for the extremely impressive range of sounds by Melinda Dooley '09 in "The Woman Who Loved To Make Vaginas Happy" — my favorite was the bossy moan, although the Sarah Palin moan was clearly a crowd pleaser. (There was also an MIT moan: "I'm so glad I came... to office hours.") To end the night, "I Was There In The Room" celebrated the miracle of birth and compared the vagina to the heart. I was left with a greater sense of appreciation, awareness, and love for my vagina and my worth as a woman.

This year's presentation of the *Vagina Monologues*, originally written by playwright and founder Eve Ensler, was produced by Liz Iffrig '10 and Rachel Licht '10. Directed by Kellas Cameron '10, Petek Saracoglu '09, and Ari Shapiro G, the show raised funds for the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC).

## THEATER REVIEW

# MIT Dramashop Puts On 'Julius Caesar'

## Modernized Production of Shakespeare's Classic Keeps an Old Story Relevant

By Samuel Markson

STAFF WRITER

*Julius Caesar*

MIT Dramashop

Directed by Michael Ouellette

February 5-7, 12-14

Kresge Little Theater

Conspirators wear business suits. Mark Antony chats on his cell phone. The soldiers of Brutus deck themselves out in camo and army boots.

Welcome to the 21st century and MIT Dramashop's recent performance of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Following in the footsteps of the American Repertory Theatre's production of the same work last year, Dramashop works to bring the classic message closer to home. It's a message even more relevant now, at the dawn of new American leadership, than last year, when the theatre of American politics was still in the first act.

It's not necessarily original — in fact, I think a traditional performance would be harder to find these days — but when it's done well it's powerful. The performance got me thinking — about politics, people, democracy, the balance between hero and Common Man — which is one sign of success. I wonder, though, if those thoughts came at the intended moments or for the intended reasons.

While a brilliant effort from the members of Dramashop, I did sense (as I do with most altered Shakespeare) that the change of scenery had more to do with what was available in the costume closet than with what the troupe intended to say. The text was (thankfully) unaltered, and I believe that the words themselves spoke volumes more than any of the more blatant production decisions made by the troupe. This is less a criticism for the performance, which I enjoyed fully, but a recommendation for future viewers of Shakespeare to ignore the minor changes in scenery and character portrayal and focus on the reason theatres still perform Shakespeare — that is, because it's



WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH

(from left) David A. Brescia '10, Skylar W. Desa '10, Yoni Gray '10, Prannay Budhraj '10, Mia A. Shandell '10, Bryan C. Hernandez '09, and Travis S. Newsad '10 contemplate their murderous actions during the dress rehearsal of *Julius Caesar* on February 4.

Shakespeare. If you don't take your eyes off the pinstripes, you can't watch the game.

The performance was carried well by Travis S. Newsad '10, as Brutus. Newsad, perhaps more than any other in the cast, managed to represent well the meaning and beauty of the original text while still blending in with and playing off of the foils around him. The character's depth carried through, and the sympathy aroused by the classical tragic hero became the linchpin of the production.

I found many of the other major actors to be less engaging — they frequently spoke too quickly and occasionally stumbled over lines.

Furthermore, I found the odd dichotomy of Mark Antony's character — drunken aviator-

sporting playboy in Act I turned avid loyalist in Act V — to be a thin representation of what should be a full counterpart to Brutus. As performed, Antony came across as a corrupt mobster, with little motivation beyond a vague desire to prevent change. This interpretation, I feel, cloaks much of the backhanded moral relativity that Shakespeare intended.

Particularly within the current post-modern political scene, I feel that "modernized" Shakespeare needs to escape the traditional, simplified character portrayals we all put up with in high school, and enter into a world where figures are analyzed, rather than just villainized. Nonetheless, within the confines of the role, as-presented, Sean P. Faulk '11, managed to

create an entertaining and interesting Antony.

And while I don't agree wholeheartedly with the production decisions made, I do support Dramashop's decision to put on *Caesar*; it, perhaps more than any other Shakespeare play, has the most current weight and the strongest forboding quality. It, more than many of Shakespeare's works, is up for interpretation, and one of the better marks of Dramashop's production is that it was left that way. No direct political allegory was made (at least not clearly), and so it's up to the audience to decide who in today's political arena is Antony, Caesar, Brutus, or even the minor, but telling, poet, Cinna. The audience rules, and, as in democracy, it should. All in all, it was an admirable performance, and, while not flawless, it glows with a certain home-grown luster. I'm certainly looking forward to future Dramashop productions, and I encourage readers to do the same.

## MOVIE REVIEW ★★

# Shopaholic During a Recession?

## Don't Waste Your Money

By Christine Yu

STAFF WRITER

*Confessions of a Shopaholic*

Directed by P.J. Hogan

Screenplay by Tim Firth, Tracey Jackson

Starring Isla Fisher and Hugh Dancy.

Rated PG

Now Playing

Movies make the worst first dates — unless they invoke insightful discussion. This Valentine's Day, I decided to watch *Confessions of a Shopaholic* — on a first date — because, well, I wasn't expecting much from the date nor the movie. Instead, I had a great first date, at the expense of not taking the movie seriously.

The movie is based on the first book in a series written by Madeline Wickman, who writes under the pseudonym Sophie Kinsella. The storyline follows a shopaholic, who ironically

gives financial advice. Her shopping problems are so bad that she basically lives a lie (with thousands of dollars in debt). Because of this, she almost loses everything, including love.

While, for the most part, I enjoyed the book, I hated the main character — the shopaholic Becky Bloomwood. The movie made Becky, played by Australian actress Isla Fisher, much more sympathetic to the audience: she really learned her lesson. This is different from the novel, where her life just happened to magically work out. Her main love interest, Luke Brandon, played by Hugh Dancy, was not nearly as dreamy as he was in the novel.

Unlike most chick flicks, the creators attempted to make this a bit more serious. Granted this is probably because a movie on shopping, during an economic recession, would seem insensitive. Thus, they portrayed the consequences of spending above one's means. While the movie was full of high-end, designer brands, it emphasized the main character's re-

liance on these secular goods. However, it was all a bit too cheery for how serious a problem shopping can be. Even when she hit rock bottom, it was not even close to depressing. If anything, it was just a very cliché attempt to bring about a serious message.

Due to the genre of the film, it's hard to be taken seriously. The attempts to look serious just came off as even more cliché. As my date put it, "you have to remember the genre," which is what I'm considering in my rating. The movie was completely predictable. While there were a few funny moments, for the most part, I whispered back and forth with my date about what designer bag she was carrying, which goes against the message completely.

As it's an economic recession, do yourself a favor and save your money. Have a relationship with something other than a credit card. After all, I'm giving you this message for free. Instead, you could hear it from the film for \$10.75.

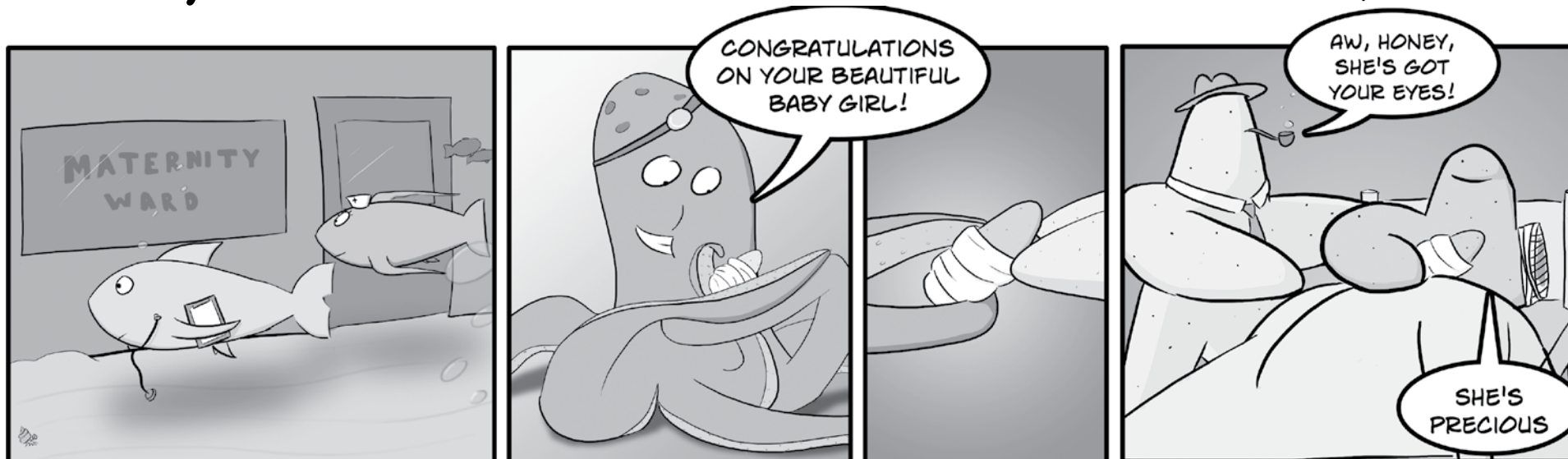
## Staff Picks

Dominick Farinacci Quartet  
Sculler's Jazz Club  
400 Soldiers Road  
Boston, MA  
Feb. 25

Trumpeter Dominick Farinacci performs repertoire off his US debut album *Loves, Tales & Dances* (E1 Music) at Sculler's Jazz Club in Boston. Since being "discovered" by Wynton Marsalis at the age of 15, Dominick has charmed fans and critics alike with the warmth and rich lyricism of his sound. Produced by the legendary Russ Titelman (Eric Clapton, James Taylor, etc), *Loves, Tales & Dances* features some of the greatest players in jazz, including Kenny Barron, James Genus, and Joe Lovano.

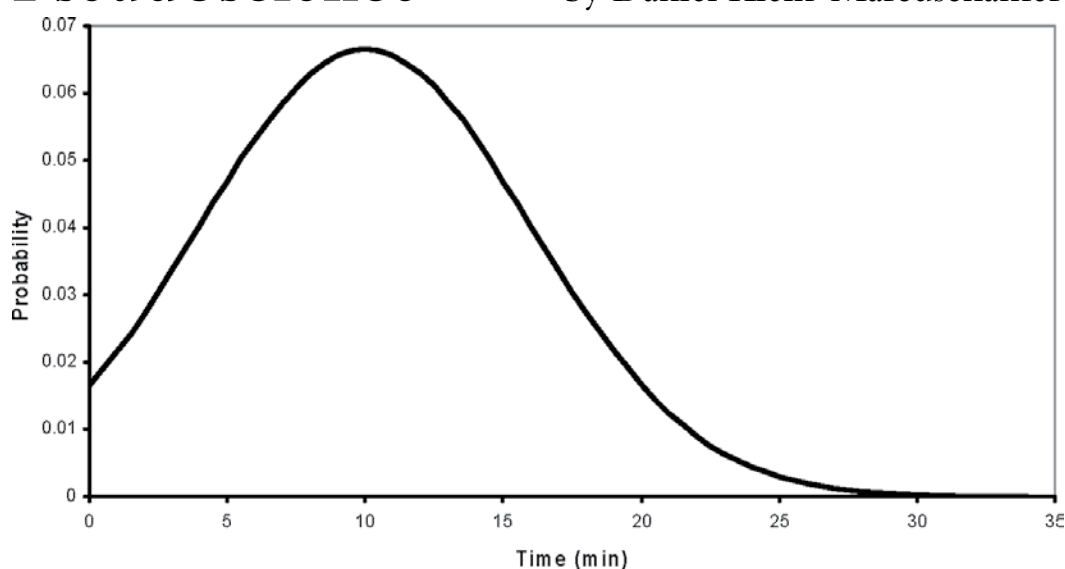
## Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



## Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer



**Figure 49.** The plot illustrates the distribution of waiting times for the No.1 bus at 77 Mass. Av. for the weekend afternoon schedule. The value extends from 0 (when two or more busses arrive almost simultaneously) to > 30 min. The mean waiting time is close to the theoretical number, 10 min, but the standard deviation is much larger than that acceptable for allowing the use of the word 'reliable' to describe the transportation system. The social cost of the above trend ranges from the trauma of severe frostbite to the economic loss of unused movie tickets. (Archives still available at: <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com>)

## The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters

### Lessons learned:

One letter typos can be a very big deal.

**SUBWAY**  
eat flesh.®

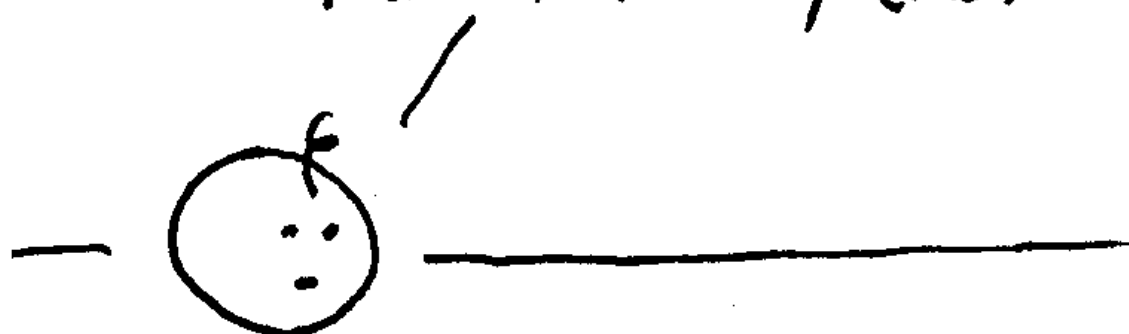


## Blobbles

by Jason Chan

Welcome from  
University of Phoenix

I'd go to college, but  
I don't actually exist.



# su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.  
Solution on page 11.

					4			
4	7				1			
2				8			3	
6			4	5				9
		8		3		5		
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Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

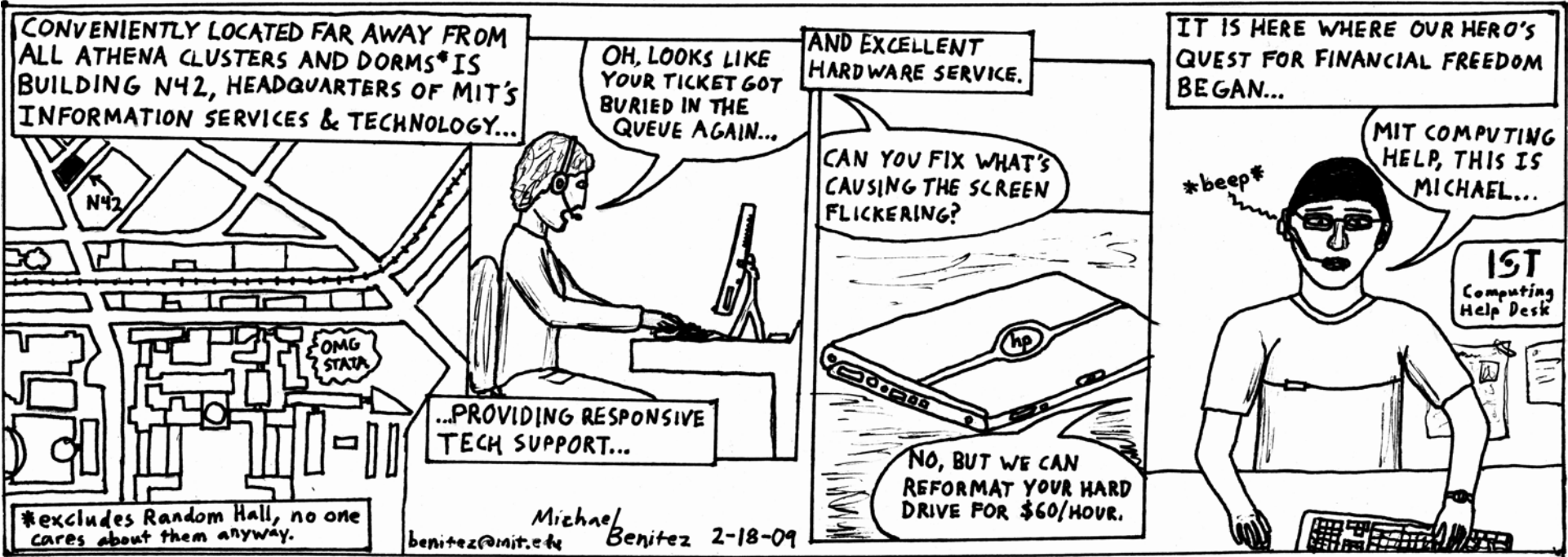


Doonesbury  
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Help Desk

by Michael Benitez



Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 11

ACROSS

- 1 Top guns
- 5 Paired, like socks
- 10 Writer Emile
- 14 Singer Cantrell
- 15 Online transaction
- 16 Bahrain ruler
- 17 "My People" author
- 18 Guitar stroke
- 19 Nixon-Brezhnev treaty
- 20 Florida production
- 23 Prepare for knighthood?
- 24 Letter flourish
- 25 Crow's-nest site
- 28 Dazed state
- 32 Checks on car makers
- 37 One bound in servitude
- 38 Summer in Tours

- 39 Hub of Florida's 20A
- 41 Wrestling goal
- 42 Novelist Jong
- 45 Summer cooler
- 48 Alter a title
- 50 Wasteland
- 51 Interchange inclines
- 54 Accumulate
- 58 Experiencing fame
- 62 On the quiet side
- 63 Archibald and Thurmond
- 64 Neet rival
- 65 Iranian money
- 66 Levees
- 67 Sicilian volcano
- 68 New York nine
- 69 Financial share
- 70 Plant-to-be

DOWN

- 1 Smart follower?

- 2 Mountain retreat
- 3 Maternally related
- 4 Riviera resort
- 5 GI's meal
- 6 Italian wine center
- 7 Mountain lakes
- 8 Dodge
- 9 Objects
- 10 Piquant
- 11 \_\_\_ Khayyam
- 12 Easter bloom
- 13 Creative skill
- 21 \_\_\_-Ude, Russia
- 22 Makes a lap
- 26 \_\_\_-pitch softball
- 27 Salsa dipper
- 29 Daddy
- 30 "Ars Amatoria" poet
- 31 Russo of "Get Shorty"
- 32 Sly look
- 33 Tours to be
- 34 Chow \_\_\_

- 35 Kid's card game
- 36 Bridge feat
- 40 Year in Madrid
- 43 Monopolistic business groups
- 44 Eastern nursemaid
- 46 Soccer score
- 47 Weasels' kin
- 49 Improves by editing
- 52 Braid
- 53 City on Baranof Island
- 55 Type size
- 56 Polish
- 57 Famous fiddle, familiarly
- 58 Nastase of tennis
- 59 Shipshape
- 60 Submissive
- 61 Latin 101 word
- 62 Supply with weapons

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68					69						70			



# Students Protest Dining Proposal

The Campaign for Students, a concerned students group, protested proposed changes to dining midday Tuesday in Lobby 7. A proposal from Envision Strategies, a consulting group hired by the Blue Ribbon Committee on Dining, suggested mandatory dining plans for students. The proposal was leaked, and its contents caused an uproar among students.

(Clockwise from right)

Carmel R. Dudley '11 paints a large banner reading "No Mandatory Dining / Let Us Choose!" that was hung in Lobby 7 during the protest.

Associate Dean of Residential Life Programs Donna M. Denoncourt (left) and Senior Associate Dean for Residential Life Karen A. Nilsson spoke with students.

Andrew B. Shapiro '11 passes out flyers to passersby.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH



DIANE RAK—THE TECH



Mocha Moves  
Dance Group  
Presents...



# Mocha Motion

Get on Board for the Ride of Your Life!

**February 20-21, 2009,**  
**Departs @ 7:30pm**  
**Kresge Little Theater, M.I.T.**

Damage: \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door  
\*Tickets on Sale Feb 9-20  
9am-5pm in Student Center

Two Great Nights of Dance with Guest Performances by  
**Spoken Word Artist Dorri Zini**  
&  
**MIT Dance Troupe**



# Sixthsense Invention Consists of Cap With Projector & Camera

Sixthsense, from Page 1

ing a picture and checking the time.

“You can take a photo of a random book, and check its prices on Amazon. You can compare prices between goods in the supermarket” and check which ones are green products, said Mistry.

“There is a lot of information on the Internet, but humans do not have access to it at all times. Sixthsense gives you the ability to receive information about anything and anyone you encounter, anywhere, and at all times,” added Mistry.

Discussing the motivations behind his work, Mistry said “the digital world has brought many devices to human life, yet it has diluted human interactions. People have started using social networks as their major path for socializing. You would see people sitting individually in cafes, each busy with his laptop or phone. My task is to use digital work to integrate digital work into human’s lives.”

The idea for the sixthsense project came to Mistry about six months ago. “It came as a crazy idea of thinking of the term head mountain projector! I just started thinking of actually making real head mountain

projectors that would truly connect to people’s physical world!”

Mistry initially implemented his inspiration as a projector helmet where the camera tracked what the wearer did with his or her hand. Further modifications resulted in a cap with a smaller projector, and, finally, into a small device containing a projector and a camera.

Mistry initially called the device “WUW” as in “wear ur world.” But when it was introduced, sixthsense was judged to be a better title.

Mistry also incorporated his Indian background into his invention. Bringing your hands together in the Indian gesture of welcome, “Namaste”, causes the main menu to open up.

Mistry foresees several improvements to ‘sixthsense’, one of which is incorporating the use of computer-vision based techniques that do not require the user to wear color markers. “I have a lot of applications in mind to make sixthsense more practical for use.”

“I believe that we should use systems to learn about users rather than have users learn about systems.”

# Unpopular MacGregor Dining Program Was Running at a Loss

MacGregor Dining, from Page 1

dinner there on any given week.

In its first year, the program was popular, with close to one hundred students participating each week. In the second year, however, food quality dropped, causing attendance to drop as well. “Once you have a bad experience,” said Dahleh, “the students don’t come back.” The MacGregor president that year, Kristen M. Felch ’09, tried to phase out the program without success.

It was not phased out until recently-elected MacGregor president Raul Garcia ’10 made a final decision to end the pilot program last January. Garcia described the quality of the food as a dice roll. From cold leftovers to forgotten menu items, Garcia agreed with many residents that the program needed to end.

Since MacGregor House lacks a sizable kitchen, Au Bon Pain catered the program, preparing food from outside kitchens. This presented challenges for the caterers, who were not adequately equipped to provide fresh food for the two hours of service.

Dahleh promoted the program not only because it provided easy access to food, but also because he believed it would increase community within

MacGregor House. “My family and myself, the associate housemasters, and many of the GRTs regularly ate there.” He hoped that a new dining hall would give students a place to socialize and relax.

To replace the program, Garcia, Dahleh, and other MacGregor representatives are coming up with new ideas to provide better food and increase community within the residence.

One idea is to subsidize a weekly meal for MacGregor residents at an outside dining facility like Baker Dining. Garcia also described the idea of offering hot food options at MacGregor Convenience. This idea, however, would require negotiation with the 660 Corporation, which owns several convenience stores

around Boston including LaVerdes Market. At this point, however, no projects are underway to replace the pilot dining program.

The program offered an all-you-can-eat buffet-style meal for \$8, or \$4 for Preferred Dining subscribers.

The proposed dining hall would have been a multi-million-dollar, 6-month renovation that would have required MacGregor residents to enroll in MIT’s Preferred Dining program.

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Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

5	8	3	2	9	4	7	1	6
4	7	9	3	6	1	2	5	8
2	1	6	7	8	5	9	3	4
6	2	1	4	5	7	3	8	9
9	4	8	1	3	6	5	2	7
3	5	7	9	2	8	6	4	1
8	9	2	6	1	3	4	7	5
7	3	5	8	4	9	1	6	2
1	6	4	5	7	2	8	9	3

Solution to Crossword

from page 9

A	C	E	S	M	A	T	E	D	Z	O	L	A
L	A	N	A	E	S	A	L	E	E	M	I	R
E	B	A	N	S	T	R	U	M	S	A	L	T
C	I	T	R	U	S	I	N	D	U	S	T	R
K	N	E	E	L	S	E	R	I	F			
			M	A	S	T			S	T	U	P
L	E	M	O	N	L	A	W	S	S	L	A	V
E	T	E		O	C	A	L	A		P	I	N
E	R	I	C	A		O	R	A	N	G	E	A
R	E	N	A	M	E		M	O	O	R		
			R	A	M	P	S		A	M	A	S
			I	N	T	H	E	L	I	M	E	L
A	L	E	E		N	A	T	E	S		N	A
R	I	A	L		D	I	K	E	S		E	T
M	E	T	S		S	T	A	K	E		S	E



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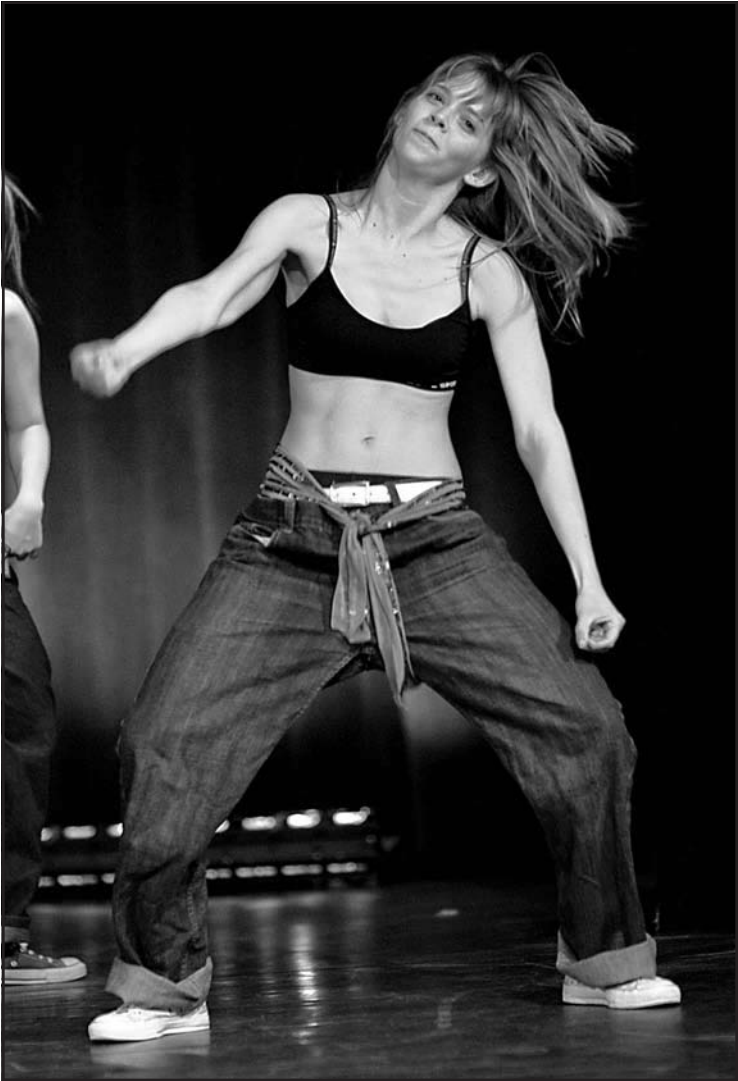
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# Mocha Motion Dancers Shake It This Weekend in Little Kresge



Dance group Mocha Moves will be performing their show *Mocha Motion* this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Little Kresge.

(clockwise from top-left)

Adlai R. Grayson '08 shakes off during the opening dance titled "Touch and Go!"

Pierre-Guy F. Douyon '12 (left) and Quinnton J. Harris '11 perform during the dance "Now Boarding: Windy City Express."

Anikia F. Tucker '10 shows off her moves in the dance "On the Corner."

(from left) Nana Essilfie-Conduah '11, Tamika P. Tannis '11, Anikia F. Tucker '10, and Rachel N. Peterson '09 shuffle during the dance "Throwback Central."

Rachel N. Peterson '09 cranks it during "Throwback Central."

Photography by William Yee





# MIT Will Raise Fin. Aid Budget 10 Percent More Aid Requested

Tuition, from Page 1

“Notwithstanding the economic crisis, we are committed to meeting the financial needs of students,” said Clay. “We will build the budget around this promise.”

He also indicated that efforts to raise funds for tuition assistance will continue, despite estimates that MIT will face a forty percent drop in pledges from donors. The recently launched Institute-wide Planning Task Force, which has been charged with considering cost-cutting measures, will also take into account the Institute’s priorities in deciding what to cut. Director of Student Financial Aid and Employment Daniel Barkowitz added that the funds devoted to financial aid are drawn from specially earmarked endowment funds before being drawn from the General Institute Budget. He also restated that the current economic turmoil will have no effect on admissions and financial aid allocations.

“It was critical to us,” said Barkowitz, “that in this environment we restate the commitment to the

triple principles of need-blind admission, need-based financial aid, and full-need financial aid packages.”

There has been a modest increase in the number of current students requesting additional aid due to changes in family circumstances. This semester, there were forty such instances, compared to the usual twenty. Based on experience from past recessions, MIT estimates this slump will require an additional \$7-8 million earmarked toward financial assistance. As a result, the financial aid budget for the 2009-2010 academic year will be \$81.6 million, 10 percent higher than the current \$74 million budget.

MIT also saw more early applicants seeking financial assistance; 90 percent of early applicants sought aid this past year, compared to 83 percent in 2007 and 81 percent in the previous three years. However, MIT said last month that they are committed to helping those families weather the tough economic times.

“We are just as generous as we were last year”, said Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel Hastings, “and perhaps more generous.”

# Students Expect A’s As Default Grade, Even If They Just Attend Class

By Max Roosevelt  
NEW YORK TIMES

Prof. Marshall Grossman has come to expect complaints whenever he returns graded papers in his English classes at the University of Maryland.

“Many students come in with the conviction that they’ve worked hard and deserve a higher mark,” Professor Grossman said. “Some assert that they have never gotten a grade as low as this before.”

He attributes those complaints to his students’ sense of entitlement.

“I tell my classes that if they just do what they are supposed to do and meet the standard requirements, that they will earn a C,” he said. “That is the default grade. They see the default grade as an A.”

A recent study by researchers at the University of California, Irvine, found that a third of students surveyed said that they expected B’s just for attending lectures, and 40 percent said they deserved a B for completing the required reading.

“I noticed an increased sense of entitlement in my students and wanted to discover what was causing it,” said Ellen Greenberger, the lead author of the study, called “Self-Entitled College Students: Contributions of Personality, Parenting, and Motivational Factors,” which appeared last year in The Journal of Youth and Adolescence.

Professor Greenberger said that the sense of entitlement could be related to increased parental pressure, competition among peers and family members and a heightened sense of achievement anxiety.

Aaron M. Brower, the vice provost for teaching and learning at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, offered another theory.

“I think that it stems from their K-12 experiences,” Professor Brower said. “They have become ultra-efficient in test preparation. And this hyper-efficiency has led them to look for a magic formula to get high scores.”

James Hogge, associate dean of the Peabody School of Education at Vanderbilt University, said: “Students often confuse the level of effort with the quality of work. There is a mentality in students that ‘if I work hard, I deserve a high grade.’”

In line with Dean Hogge’s obser-

vation are Professor Greenberger’s test results. Nearly two-thirds of the students surveyed said that if they explained to a professor that they were trying hard, that should be taken into account in their grade.

Jason Greenwood, a senior kinesiology major at the University of Maryland echoed that view.

“I think putting in a lot of effort should merit a high grade,” Mr. Greenwood said. “What else is there really than the effort that you put in?”

“If you put in all the effort you have and get a C, what is the point?” he added. “If someone goes to every class and reads every chapter in the book and does everything the teacher asks of them and more, then they should be getting an A like their effort deserves. If your maximum effort can only be average in a teacher’s mind, then something is wrong.”

Sarah Kinn, a junior English major at the University of Vermont, agreed, saying, “I feel that if I do all of the readings and attend class regularly that I should be able to achieve a grade of at least a B.”

At Vanderbilt, there is an emphasis on what Dean Hogge calls “the locus of control.” The goal is to put the academic burden on the student.

“Instead of getting an A, they make an A,” he said. “Similarly, if they make a lesser grade, it is not the teacher’s fault. Attributing the outcome of a failure to someone else is a common problem.”

Additionally, Dean Hogge said, “professors often try to outline the ‘rules of the game’ in their syllabi,” in an effort to curb haggling over grades.

Professor Brower said professors at Wisconsin emphasized that students must “read for knowledge and write with the goal of exploring ideas.”

This informal mission statement, along with special seminars for freshmen, is intended to help “re-teach students about what education is.”

The seminars are integrated into introductory courses. Examples include the conventional, like a global-warming seminar, and the more obscure, like physics in religion.

The seminars “are meant to help students think differently about their classes and connect them to real life,” Professor Brower said.

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ADITI VERMA—THE TECH

(left to right) Kathleen A. Clark-Adams '10 and Adam J. Goldstein '09, officers of the MIT Debate Team, speak at a public debate on Wednesday evening in 4-270. The debate focused on whether Independent Living Groups should be granted immunity if they call for help when students get sick at parties. Student rights and trust in the administration were the dominant issues in the round.

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## MIT Will Implement None of Faculty Plan From Feb. 4 Meeting

GIRs, from Page 1

have brought forth included the elimination of the HASS-D system and development of new variations on the required science core subjects, as well as the introduction pilot versions of broad-themed humanities courses geared toward freshmen and a class focused on "elements of design."

The committee is still discussing how best to move forward, said its chair, Professor Steven Hall.

Professor Robert P. Redwine, one of the co-chairs of the dissolved subcommittee, explained the decision not to move forward with any parts of the motion, even though some of its parts could have been implemented without changing the faculty rules: "We always saw it as a coherent, connected package," he said.

Still, he said, "That doesn't mean one can't go forward in various ways with pieces, if not all, of what was discussed."

Some parts of the original motion; such as the elimination of HASS-D and its replacement with a simpler Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences distribution; received broad support. But, the provision to develop new themed courses satisfying the science and math required subjects as well as the provision to

a create an interdepartmental committee-based system to govern these subjects attracted controversy, especially in the School of Science.

Redwine said of this controversy, "In many ways, the most worrisome fact was not that [the motion] lost by a small majority but that the vote was close and with changes of this sort, you'd like to see a strong majority." He said that the vote had been split "significantly" along school lines.

The defeated motion and disbanded committee represent the second time since 2003 plans to reform the GIRs have been developed but have failed to be approved for implementation. Between 2003 and 2006, a Presidential Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons created a plan that would have changed the GIRs more drastically than the recent motion would have. After the Task Force's plan failed to reach a faculty vote, the Educational Commons Subcommittee was charged with reworking the Task Force's plan.

During the February 4 meeting, several faculty and administrators, including Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings, expressed desire to move on from the now over-five-years-long discussion, but, for now, faculty and administrators have gone back to work on the plan.

## In 2003–4 Downturn, Salaries Were Frozen And 90 Were Laid Off

Salary freeze, from Page 1

of up to \$150 million over three years. The estimated 20–25% drop in endowment value mirrors other universities' losses.

Salaries were last frozen in October 29, 2003, when the provost and executive vice president announced a one-year salary freeze effective immediately for on-campus faculty and staff earning more than \$55,000 a year. In that announcement, raises were capped at \$1,000 for employees earning less than \$55,000 a year. The 2003–2004 economic downturn included staff cuts: 90 staff were laid off and 140 positions were eliminated, according to a 2005 News Office article reporting on former provost

Robert A. Brown's departure to Boston University. Brown said in a September 2004 report to faculty that 270 staff and faculty positions were lost, some to "natural attrition, non-renewal, or phasing out of positions."

Of MIT's current \$1.1 billion general operating budget, almost half, \$512.3 million, is spent on employee salaries and benefits. Might the next three years see fewer staff positions?

A group called the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force has been charged with suggesting ways to cut costs. "[I]t is inevitable that the Institute will have fewer employees in the future," the task force's website says.

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# Call for Nominations!

## 2009 Student Art Awards

### LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER STUDENT ART AWARDS

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/wiesner.html>

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The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 award to the honoree.

<http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/sudler.html>

Please send nominating letters by Friday March 20, 2009 to:

Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT- E15-205

[cohen@media.mit.edu](mailto:cohen@media.mit.edu)

<http://web.mit.edu/awards/>

SPORTS

Game of the Week

Men's Volleyball Tops Lesley in Straight Sets For Four Game Streak

By Mindy Brauer  
DAPER STAFF

The MIT men's volleyball team extended its winning streak to four courtesy of a 30-10, 30-12, 30-12 decision over Lesley University in a North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) New England Division match on Tuesday. The victory lifted the Engineers' record to 9-9 on the year and 5-3 in conference play while the Lynx saw their record dip to 1-11 overall and 1-7 in the league.

MIT tallied the first four points of the contest, but Lesley kept the hosts in check by capitalizing on miscues to trail, 6-2. The Engineers responded with a 20-3 run to put the game out of reach. The Lynx continued to attack, using serving errors along with a block by Nick Assad to prolong the frame and make the score 27-8. Hopes of sustaining the late rally were thwarted as the Engineers posted three of the final five points to close the set.

The Engineers carried the momentum into the second stanza, racing out to an 8-1 advantage. Lesley quickly narrowed the gap

to four (8-4) on a block by Assad. The Lynx stayed within striking distance for a majority of the game as a service error trimmed the deficit to eight (17-9). MIT countered with eight straight points before taking the second set.

In the final frame, MIT held a 7-5 lead prior to igniting a 14-1 run. Each side exchanged points until MIT rattled off four in a row to seal the match.

Troy V. Tamas '10 led the Engineers with 11 kills and a .600 hitting percentage. Eric R. Reuland '10 notched seven kills as Benson M. George '12 posted five kills and four blocks. Jeremy J. Velazquez '12 tallied five aces while Eugene Jang '09 collected five digs. In two games, Caine L. Jette '10 recorded 21 assists and five aces.

Assad finished the night with four blocks as Stephen Siragusa registered five kills. Clayton Janer dished out nine assists for the Lynx.

MIT will hit the road for non-conference action at Johnson & Wales University on Wednesday, Feb. 18. Lesley will continue conference play on Saturday, Feb. 21 at the Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Pistol Tops Coast Guard in Collegiate Sectional

In its final tune-up before the National Rifle Association (NRA) Intercollegiate Championship, the MIT pistol team secured a 6,168-5,960 win over the U.S. Coast Guard Academy this past weekend. The women's squad was also victorious, registering a 2,655-2,607 decision.

Sports Shorts

The Engineers captured the top four spots in air pistol en route to a 2,203-2,091 win. Fuzhou Hu '09 led the way with a score of 560, followed by Patrick B. Wu '10 (554), Gregory I. Telian '11 (550), and Michelle C. Ma '10 (539).

In standard pistol, Coast Guard edged out the Engineers by 10 points (2,024-2,014). Andrew K. Sugaya '11 and Ma finished 1-2 for MIT with marks of 527 and 512. The Bears filled the next three slots with totals of 510, 507, and 505. Hu posted a score of 504 as Coast Guard's final shooter notched a 502. Drew D. Regitsky '10 closed out the event with a tally of 471.

MIT bounced back with a 1,951-1,845 decision in free pistol. Hu paced the squad with a total of 504 while Telian and Sugaya notched marks of 497 and 492, respectively. The Bears narrowed the gap with scores of 486 and 477, but it would not be enough as Wu shot a 458 to close out the match.

Ma was the top performer in women's air pistol as her tally of 362 helped power MIT to a 1,054-1,036 victory. Coast Guard captured the next two slots but, Ji-Soo Kim '11 and Xudan Liu responded with marks of 347 and 345 to secure the slim win.

In women's sport pistol, the Engineers recorded a 1,601-1,571 win. Ma once again led the way with a total of 561 while Lihua Bai '09 finished third with a 526. Liu wrapped up the competition with a 514.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Men's Gymnastics Places Second at New England Invitational

The MIT men's gymnastics team tallied 312.500 points, finishing behind host Springfield College's total of 318.950 at the New England Invitational held this past weekend. MIT posted a trio of top-10 finishes in the all-around. Thomas S. Caldwell '09 finished third with a total of 79.200 as Boris Rasin '09 ranked right behind him with a 78.550. Jacob T. Shapiro '11 captured eighth place with a score of 76.050.

On the floor exercise, Caldwell and Rasin tied for eighth with a mark of 13.300. Brett S. Lazarus '12 and Jacob S. Sharpe '11 both registered totals of 12.800 for 13th place.

Caldwell captured the top spot in the pommel horse (13.500), Rasin tied for fourth (12.550), and Lazarus ranked 10th with a score of 11.950. Shapiro finished half a point behind Lazarus, securing 18th place.

Shapiro took first on the rings (13.400). Lazarus ranked fourth with a total of 13.000, just four-tenths of a point behind Shapiro's winning mark. Rasin and Caldwell followed closely with scores of 12.950 and 12.550, good for fifth and sixth place.

Shapiro led the charge on the vault, claiming ninth place with a tally of 14.400. Caldwell finished in 14th place (13.850) as Rasin tied for 19th (13.600).

MIT's athletes finished closely together on the parallel bars. Lazarus paced the squad (14th, 12.900), followed by Rasin (16th, 12.550), Shapiro (16th, 12.550), and Caldwell (T-21st, 12.350).

MIT had a strong showing on the high bar as Lazarus led the way with a score of 14.200 en route to a second-place finish. Caldwell claimed the next spot (13.650) while Rasin ranked fourth (13.600).

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, Feb. 20, 2009

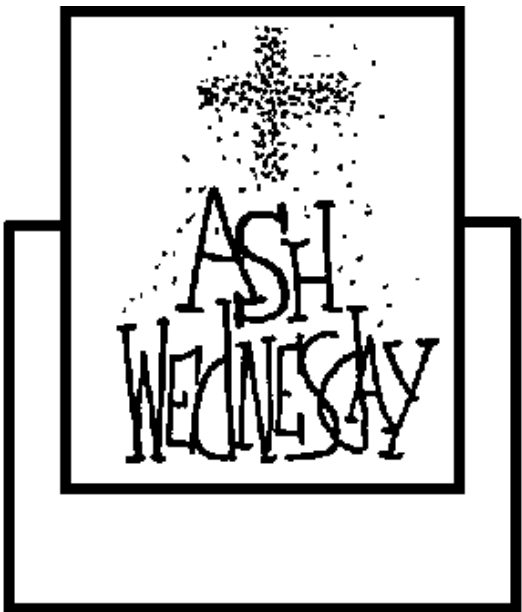
Men's Track New England Division III Championship 11 a.m., Johnson Athletic Center  
Women's Swimming NEWMAC Championship 12 p.m., Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center  
Men's Tennis vs. Bentley University 4 p.m., J.B. Carr Tennis Bubble

Saturday, Feb. 21, 2009

Women's Swimming NEWMAC Championship 11 a.m., Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center  
Men's Track New England Division III Championship 11 a.m., Johnson Athletic Center  
Men's Volleyball vs. Mount Ida College 11 a.m., Rockwell Cage  
Women's Gymnastics vs. Springfield College 1 p.m., duPont Gymnasium  
Men's Volleyball vs. Southern Vermont College 3 p.m., Rockwell Cage  
Men's Gymnastics vs. Temple University 7 p.m., duPont Gymnasium

Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009

Women's Swimming NEWMAC Championship 11 a.m., Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center



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SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball	
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009	
Clark University (10-14)	89
MIT (17-8)	97

Women's Basketball	
Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009	
MIT (4-18)	24
Wheaton College (14-10)	57

Men's Gymnastics	
Sunday, Feb. 15, 2009	
New England Invitational	
MIT	2nd of 15

Men's Ice Hockey	
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009	
Bryant University (11-13-0)	1
MIT (11-5-1)	3

Pistol	
Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009	
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	5960
MIT (7-5)	6168

Rifle	
Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009	
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	2191 (s), 2215 (a)
MIT	2216 (s), 2252 (a)

Squash	
Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009	
Connecticut College (5-13)	6
MIT (9-10)	3
Pennsylvania State University	1
MIT (10-10)	8
Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009	
MIT (10-11)	0
Brown University (3-8)	9

Men's Volleyball	
Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009	
Lesley University (1-11)	0
MIT (9-9)	3
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2009	
MIT (10-9)	3
Johnson & Wales University (4-5)	2



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